



# THE PAWPAW PRESS

Newsletter of the Pawpaw Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society: November 2018

## Some parting words from the president

It's been an honor to serve as president of the Pawpaw Chapter for the last two years. During that time, the chapter's membership has grown to some 140 members and our monthly programs have drawn increasingly large audiences, with more than 50 people attending last month's presentation by Jacqui Sulek from Florida Audubon (*photo right by Paul Rebmann*).



We have given talks, led walks and

helped spread the word about the Florida Native Plant Society through dozens of outreach events. On field trips both near and far we have provided opportunities to explore Florida's natural beauty and see up close the essential part native plants play in our state's diverse ecosystems. We launched a program to provide grants to local schools to install native plants on their grounds. Our portion of the Park of Honor in South Daytona has never looked better. And people will soon see our name as the adopters of a portion of Highway 40 west of Ormond Beach.

### Proposed officers

For the term of office, January through December 2019, the Nominating Committee submits the following slate of candidates up for election at the December meeting of the Pawpaw Chapter. Nominations also will be accepted from the floor.

President: Paul Rebmann  
Vice President: Leslie Nixon  
Treasurer: Karen Walter  
Secretary: Sande Habali

Very few of these achievements have anything to do with me, and I could never have successfully served as president without the help of a dedicated core of Pawpaw members who selflessly put in countless hours of work to make Pawpaw the vibrant chapter it is. To all of them, I offer my sincere thanks. With their continuing involvement, even better things surely lie ahead.—Doug

## Let the bidding begin (conviviality, too)

In what has become a chapter tradition, the December meeting will be our annual native plant auction and holiday celebration. To fortify yourselves for bidding, please bring finger food, along with your own plate and utensils, to enjoy beginning at 6:30 p.m. The chapter will provide beverages. At 7, after the election of new officers, the auction will get underway with Don Spence and Danny Young once again serving as auctioneers.

For the auction, please bring up to three native plants you have grown or purchased. Make sure the plants are labeled. There also will be select plants purchased by the chapter specifically for this event, and the minimum bid for those plants will be the price the chapter paid.

## Sightings of rare scrub mint warm a cool day

On a nippy November morning, Dave Anderson led eight Pawpaw members out for a private peek at Titusville's rare endemic scrub mint, *Dicerandra thinicola*. Though at the end of its bloom season, what a wonderful



little *Dicerandra eden* it was.

This rare mint appears to be completely happy in this surprisingly bare sandhill habitat. Small clumps of fragrant *Dicerandra thincicola* stretched right across the sandy expanse. It's only companions were a few sand pine, some gopher apple, a scattering of narrowleaf silkgrass and wispy tall jointweed, some crusty deermoss, earth stars, an occasional saw palmetto and one large clump of scrub rosemary.

Thank goodness pockets of unspoiled wild places like this still exist in Florida.—*Sonya Guidry*

## Talking natives

Vice president nominee Leslie Nixon gave a talk on incorporating native plants into home landscapes on Nov. 14 at the Ormond Beach Regional Library. She taught the attendees what a native plant is, to “plant this, not that” and where to get more information on natives, including FNPS of course!

*(Photo by Paul Rebmann)*



## Upcoming events:

- Dec. 7 (Fri), 3:00 p.m., Talk on invasive species in Florida with Roger Fulton, Ponce Preserve, 4401 S. Peninsula in the Peninsula entrance parking lot, free. Contact Amy Zengotita, (386) 236-2163
- Dec. 8 (Sat): Full day field trip to Bok Tower Gardens in Lake Wales to view rare plants
- Dec. 10 (Mon): The Pawpaw Chapter's holiday celebration and annual auction
- Dec 17 (Mon): Park of Honor workday, Olive Street, South Daytona
- Jan. 14 (Mon.) Pawpaw Chapter meeting with Chris Waltz on wildflower container gardening
- Jan. 21 (Mon): Park of Honor workday, Olive Street, South Daytona
- Feb. 11 (Mon.) Pawpaw Chapter meeting with Annie Otto on aquatic plants of Bulow Creek
- Feb. 18 (Mon): Park of Honor workday, Olive Street, South Daytona
- March 11 (Mon.) Pawpaw Chapter meeting with Nick Giannola of Green Isle Gardens-
- March 18 (Mon): Park of Honor workday, Olive Street, South Daytona

**Keep up with chapter events on our Facebook page: [facebook.com/pawpawchapter/](https://facebook.com/pawpawchapter/)**